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Episcopalian Killed in El Salvador

Cartoons + 2 photos (81228)

DEAN URBAN HOLMES, 51, EPISCOPAL THEOLOGIAN, DIES

No. 81221

ATLANTA -- The Very Rev. Urban Tigner Holmes, III, dean of the School of Theology of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn., died here Aug. 6 after suffering a stroke in late July. He was 51.

At the time of his death, Holmes had been dean of the Episcopal Church seminary since 1973. His special interest was in the role of theology in society and he was the author of many books and articles exploring such diverse areas as human sexuality and the changing role of ministry.

In his career, Holmes moved easily from studies of the earliest theologians of Christianity through an effort to relate theological study to contemporary life.

Much of his ministry was carried out with young people; serving as chaplain to Catawba College in North Carolina and Lousiana State University before accepting a position as professor of pastoral theology at the Church's Nashotah House seminary.

At the time of his death, he was also a member of the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church and of the Standing Commission on Health and Human Affairs of the Church's General Convention.

As a moderate and a scholar, convinced that the Church's history and worldwide involvement (through the Anglican Communion) gave it a particular role in shaping contemporary thought, he was much in demand on controversial issues. He was coeditor of "To Be A Priest" and "Male and Female," two books that became standard references as the Church debated ordination of women and the role of human sexuality.

However, his work went beyond these fields. His 1971 book, "The Future Shape of Ministry" -- and the 1976 "Ministry and Imagination" -- gave impetus to a series of Convention studies and reports on recruiting, training and developing expanding ministries to meet new needs, and he was co-author of "Christian Believing," a thoughtful exploration of the role of faith that was the first volume of the Episcopal Church's 1979 "New Teaching Series."

Dr. Fredrica Thompsett, who as director of the Church's Board for Theological Education worked closely with Holmes, said of him: "I don't know of anyone who did more work in shaping the contemporary theological framework for the Church's ministry. In many circles, as conference leader, in the Church's Council of Seminary Deans, and in ecumenical settings he was a passionate and energetic voice for this role."

"He was a man of unquenchable thirst for knowledge and had a compelling desire to share his understanding of God and man through his writing, preaching, and lecturing," said Robert M. Ayres, vice-chancellor of the University of the South. "His contribution to theological education and contemporary Christian thought extended far beyond his own denomination."

Holmes served a number of Church commissions including: The Anglican Consultative Council, the Standing Liturgical Commission, and the Anglican Theological Review. In addition to his books, he was author of a number of articles.

A native of Chapel Hill, N.C., he earned degrees from the University of North Carolina and the Philadelphia Divinity School before being ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church in 1954. He was awarded the Ph.D. degree from Marquette University in 1973.

In 1951 Holmes married Jane Wiley Neighbours and they have four children: Jane Teresa, David Thomas, Janet Reid and Allan Tigner.

A memorial service was held at 4 p.m. Aug. 10 at the seminary chapel, followed by a funeral service and interment in Chapel Hill on Aug. 12. Memorial gifts may be made to the Library Fund at the University of the South.

In a related development a week later, Ayres announced that the Rt. Rev. Girault Jones, retired Bishop of Louisiana, has been named interim dean of the seminary. Jones is a former chancellor of the University. An advisory committee of seminary administrators and faculty members will work with the interim dean.

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PICTURE CAPTION

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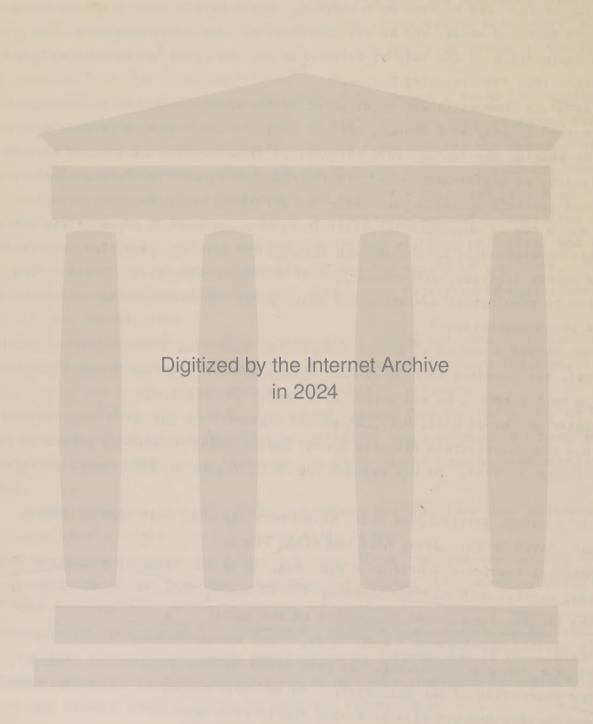
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WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL CELEBRATES 75 YEARS

No. 81222

WASHINGTON -- A year-long special ministry -- beginning Sept. 26 -- will celebrate the 75-year life of the Episcopal Cathedral of SS Peter & Paul as a focal point in the Church's ministry in the nation.

Known throughout the world as the Washington Cathedral, the see of the Diocese of Washington and the nominal see of the Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop, the cathedral also serves as a site for national mourning and celebration and maintains an active community ministry.

Bishop John T. Walker has identified "A Ministry of Reconciliation" with a series of events "to consider alienations and to narrow gulfs between rich and poor, black and white, young and old, male and female, nation and nation."

Opening of the year-long celebration coincides with the cathedral's annual Open House when special tours, demonstrations, puppet shows, music of bells, voices, organs and bagpipes will be offered all day.

In a climax to the day's activities, an eight-foot stone cross will be blessed by Bishop Walker and placed on the west nave roof-line during a service at 4 p.m. The Celtic cross joins three others, one on the apse end of the cathedral and the other two on the north and south transepts, as the highest crosses in Washington.

The day will also include general guided tours, expert talks about the stained glass and limited tours to the normally inaccessible central tower.

Canon Charles A. Perry, provost of the cathedral, said the seventy-fifth anniversary year will include a symposium on Veterans' Day, Nov. 11, "to explore concerns of Vietnam veterans." The symposium, "The Vietnam War -- Unfinished Business," will be part of a series of events focusing on reconciliation, arms control and security.

The celebration will continue with special preachers on the five Sundays before Christmas. The Rt. Rev. John M. Allin, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, will preach Nov. 22 at 11 a.m. on the theme of "reconciliation." The cathedral service on CHristmas Day will be televised nationally on NBC.

A tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr., is being planned to take place on his birthday in January.

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THREE TO GUIDE TRIENNIAL PROGRAM

No. 81223

NEW YORK -- The executive committee of the Triennial Committee has announced the major speakers fo the 1982 Triennial Meeting of the Women of the Episcopal Church.

The theme for this meeting, "Go Forth Into the World," will focus on three issues facing the Church and the world: Spirituality, Family, and Environment, during the Sept. 5 to 14 meeting in New Orleans.

The Rev. Tilden H. Edwards, Jr., executive director, Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation, has been chosen to lead workshops on Spirituality. Edwards completed his undergraduate work at Stanford University, received his Ph.D. from Harvard University and S.T.B. from Harvard Divinity School. In addition he received a Certificate of Anglican Studies from the Episcopal Theological (now Divinity) School and a Ph.D. in the area of spiritual theology from the Union Graduate School.

His former experience in the Church has been varied, ranging from associate rector of St. Stephen and the Incarnation Parish, Washington, D.C., where he was a member of a team ministry for five years, to director of the Washington Urban Training Program and executive director of the Metropolitan Ecumenical Training Center. He has participated in retreats in a variety of monastic communities and has led retreats, and spiritual growth and meditation groups. He conducted a special research project on the spiritual growth experiences and values of laity in 1973.

His more recent publications include Spiritual Friend (Paulist Press, 1980), Living Simply Through the Day (Paulist Press, 1977), "Spiritual Formation in Theological Schools," a two-year research report published in Theological Education, Dec. 1980, and All God's Children (Abingdon Press' "Journey in Faith" series) due for publication, winter, 1982.

Leading the Triennial Meeting in the area of Family will be the Rev. Dr. John H. Westerhoff III. Westerhoff is an Episcopal priest at the Chapel of the Cross, Chapel Hill, N.C., and professor of Practical Theology at the Duke University Divinity School, where he has taught catechetics, liturgics and ascetics since 1973.

Westerhoff earned his graduate degrees in theology, anthropology and education from Harvard and Columbia Universities. He spent eight years in the parish and eight years as a denominational educational officer with the United Church of Christ. He has taught at Harvard and Fordham Universities, Boston College, the University of the South, Princeton and Union Theological Seminary and has lectured throughout the world.

Author of numerous books and articles, his most recent are Will Our Children Have Faith?, Bringing Up Children in the Christian Faith, Inner Growth/Outer Change, Christian Believing, Liturgy and Learning through the Life Cycle, and A Faithful Church: Issues in the History of Catechesis. In addition, he is editor of Religious Education, an international, ecumenical, scholarly journal.

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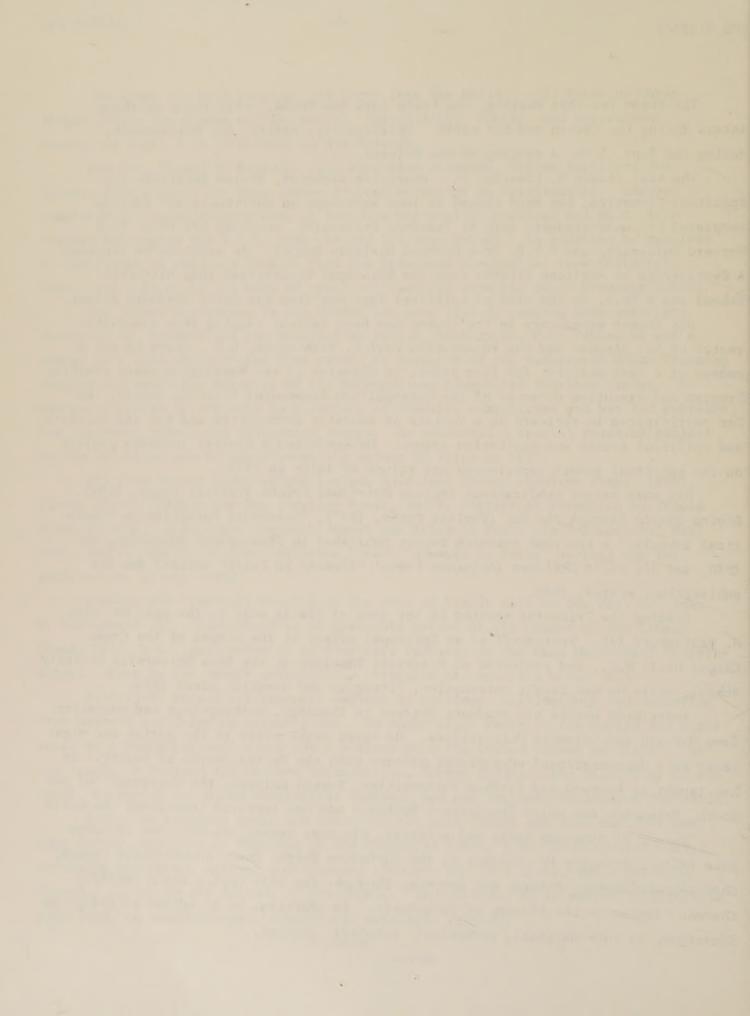
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Environment, the third area of the Triennial Meeting, will be led by Dean Herbert O'Driscoll of Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver, B.C. O'Driscoll was born in Ireland and educated at Midleton College and University of Trinity College, Dublin. He was named a Gold Medalist in Oratory by the University Philosophical Society and in 1981 received a Doctor of Divinity (Honoris Causa) from Vancouver School of Theology.

Since his ordination in 1953 he has served as staff member at Monkstown Parish Church, Dublin and Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa. He was rector of the Parish of Huntley, Diocese of Ottawa, and rector of the Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Ottawa.

O'Driscoll is a member of the Long Range Planning Committee, Anglican Church of Canada, and has been involved in adult education, seminars, retreats, and parish and diocesan conferences. He is author of *The Unshakeable Kingdom*, *For All Seasons*, A Certain Life, Portrait of a Woman, and Alleluia. He has contributed hymns to many publications, including The Royal School of Church Music, Anglican Church of Canada, United Church of Canada, United Church of Christ, U.S.A., Presbyterian Church in Canada, and 'The Hymn,' a publication of the Hymn Society of America.

Additionally, he has been a scriptwriter for radio and television. He did television scripts for the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. on Thomas Becket, Thomas Merton, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the Church in Hong Kong and "The Nativity."

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ANGLICANISM COMMISSION MAPS OUT SCHEDULE

No. 81224

LONDON -- The task of the Anglican Communion's new Theological and Doctrinal Commission is "not so much to work on questions everyone is asking, but to identify the questions likely to be emerging tomorrow."

So said Archbishop Keith Rayner, chairman of the commission, in an interview at the end of the first meeting held at Woking near here. Rayner is Archbishop of Adelaide, Australia.

He revealed that the topic set by the Anglican Consultative Council -- Church and Kingdom in Creation and Redemption -- will be studied under five topics over the next two years with three members allocated to each topic.

Two topics will relate to the general framework of the theme Church and Kingdom and will include "what we mean by Church and Kingdom, the meaning of creation and redemption in the context of the Kingdom, and all the questions that arise about whether God's work in the world is being done outside the Church as well as in it, and the relationship between the two."

The remaining groups will work on topics which are "points of entry to the general theme" -- Liberation Theology, Gospel and Culture, and the question, "What is the Preaching of the Gospel today."

Rayner said he was impressed by the speed at which the commission, which is composed of 15 members drawn from Australia, Africa, North America, South East Asia, the Pacific, South America, the Caribbean as well as Great Britain, had become a community. Alongside great diversities of culture, experience and standpoint, the Archbishop saw "a great deal in common. There was a very central concern for the Gospel and how it is to be understood and proclaimed today."

The first part of the meeting was given over to submissions by each member on the topic, Creation and Redemption, from his or her particular geographical, cultural and theological perspective. Out of this the program of work for the next two years was decided.

The archbishop had a few words to say about Christianity and culture -- one of the issues he sees as having great future importance and the topic on which he himself will be working. "To a large degree, those of us who come from Anglo-Saxon cultures often assume that the particular expression of Anglicanism they have grown up with is what Anglicanism must be and don't always recognise how culturally conditioned this has been."

He said for example that his Australian Church was becoming more conscious of the question of the relationship between Christ and culture and "our Anglicanism and our culture."

"We are in a situation where we have a clash of cultures. He have inherited a British culture. This has developed along certain lines so that we are beginning to see an Australian identity emerge. But we are not terribly clear about it at this stage and all the time this is being impinged upon by secularism and the growth of modern technology."

"Now it's very important that we recognise that we are all being affected by these cultural forces, and analyze -- be quite self-conscious about -- what is the most effective way of expressing our Christianity. We in Australia still tend to do things in an English kind of way, that was appropriate to an England of the past."

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NEW YORK -- Six Protestant groups -- including the Episcopal Church -- have launched an ecumenical consortium that will air a weekly Sunday-night religious program on a widely accessible satellite station.

Beginning Sept. 6, the half-hour program "One in the Spirit" will be transmitted via RCA Satcom I (transponder 16) with the six groups rotating on the series with programs geared toward denominational audiences. The Episcopal Church segment will air the fourth Sunday of the month beginning Sept. 27.

The five other groups in the consortium are the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., the United Methodist Church, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A. and the Association of Regional Religious Communicators. Three other denominations are considering membership in the group.

The new satellite-cable effort, created under the auspices of the National Council of Churches Communication Commission, is being made possible through the facilities of the Christian Media Network. The Bloomington, Minn.-based organization has agreed to transmit the programs as a public service during time it has leased.

According to the Rev. D. Williams McClurken, commission executive for broadcasting and film, the joint venture is the first broadly based ecumenical approach to the new communications technology. "Only a few of our members have extensive experience in this field," McClurken says. "Through the commission we are placing satellite-to-cable facilities within the reach of our members, particularly smaller groups that might find it difficult to negotiate for satellite time on their own."

"We are moving to secure satellite time now," McClurken notes, "to avoid being locked out of the market. This is a burgeoning business, and by 1982 transponder time will be hard to get as demand outstrips working satellite facilities."

Programming for the Episcopal Church segment has been planned through January, according to Sonia Francis, radio/television staff officer at the Episcopal Church Center.

The Episcopal Series will begin Sept. 27 with an exploration into the Church's overseas ministry from the point of view of the people who have served in the field.

The Oct. 25 program will feature highlights from the 1981 Evangelism Congress focusing on evangelism in the Episcopal Church.

On Nov. 22, Anglican leaders of the Church of Ireland and Church Center staff will discuss tensions in Ireland and the Church's role in that country.

The December segment will shift focus somewhat with a program of choral music backed by narration and Scripture for the Christmas season (Dec. 27).

In January, the program will explore the Church's work in urban ministry through a program that is already in production.

All programs are on the fourth Sunday and will be transmitted at 9 p.m. Eastern time.

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(EDITORS) Please note correct time for transmission is 9 (nine) p.m. RCA had originally scheduled the series for 8 p.m. and consortium publicity carried the incorrect time. Please correct the time if you plan to use earlier sources (which included an all-parish mailing).

#

CHURCH NEWS BRIEFS

No. 81226

GENEVA, Switzerland -- The annual meeting of the international Anglican/Orthodox Joint Doctrinal Commission considered the church, the triume God, and tradition during its week of sessions at an Orthodox conference center near here July 20-27. On the subject of whether Christians should confess that the Holy Spirit "proceeds from the Father" or "from the Father and the Son" (the so-called *filioque* clause used by Anglicans and most western Christians in the Nicene Creed, a fourth century statement of Christian belief), the commission's communique says "Anglicans expressed their appreciation for the Orthodox exposition. . and the new perspective this gave on the doctrinal reasons why the *filioque* has no place in the creed." The 38-member group meets again in Canterbury July 12-19, 1982, to continue discussions on the three topics and to hear papers on apostolicity of the church, holiness, and worship.

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NEW YORK -- A workshop on forming ministry support groups for laity, sponsored by the National Institute for Lay Training and an ecumenical planning team, will be held at the Episcopal Church's General Theological Seminary here on Nov. 21. The workshop is designed to help laity who are seeking support in their ministries through groups that meet for prayer, sharing and planning. Persons interested in attending the workshop are asked to apply as a group of two or more to N.I.L.T., 175 Ninth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10011, telephone 212/929-5751. The cost is \$50 per group. Some scholarship assistance is available.

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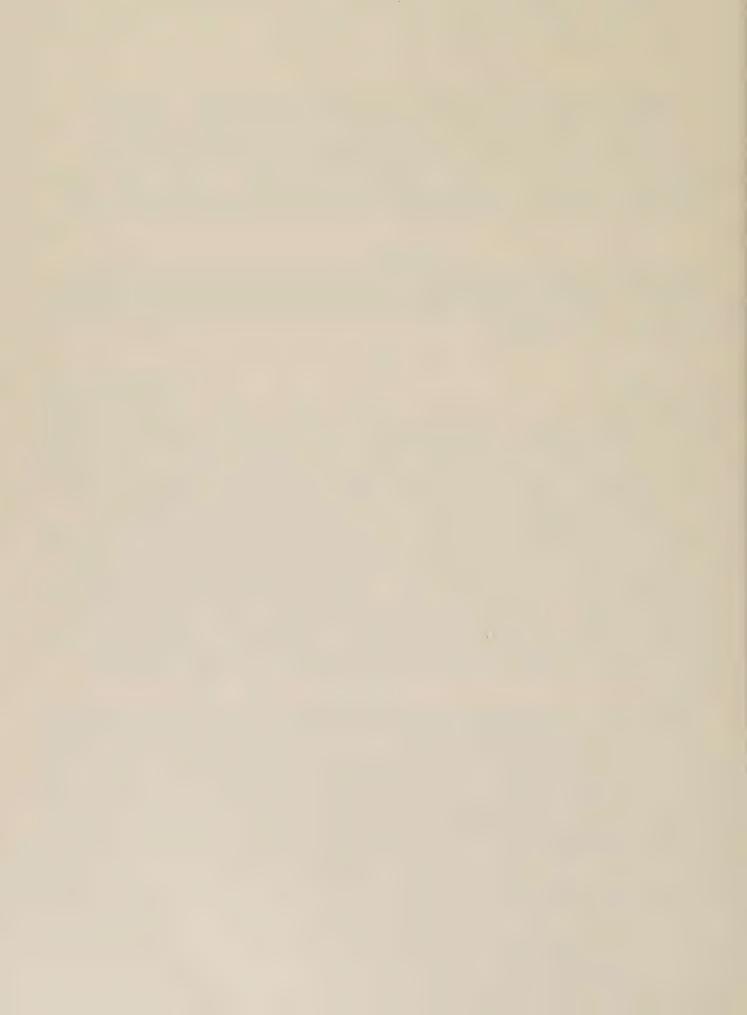
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HAMPTON, Va. -- A service commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the consecration of John Boyd Bentley as a bishop will be celebrated at St. John's Church here at 11 a.m. on Sept. 29. A luncheon honoring Bishop and Mrs. Bentley will be served after the service. Bentley, 85, served his episcopate in Alaska (1931-1947) as suffragan, bishop-in-charge, and diocesan. He was also vice president of the National (now Executive) Council and director of the overseas department from 1948 to 1964. The bishop's friends are invited to send letters to be bound, gifts for a purse and luncheon reservations to Bishop William J. Gordon, Jr., 14 Burrell Court, Midland, Mich. 48640 by Sept. 1, if possible.

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BANJUL, Gambia -- The Rt. Rev. Ishmael Samuel Mills Lemaire, Bishop of Accra, has been elected Archbishop of West Africa. Lemaire, who succeeds the Most Rev. Moses Scott upon his retirement, has been Bishop of Accra since 1968. Before that he was assistant bishop of the diocese for five years and also served as a canon of Accra and archdeacon of Sekondi.

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SEWANEE, Tenn. -- The University of the South has named Eric V. Benjamin, a 1973 graduate of the Episcopal school, to become its first director of minority student affairs. Benjamin, until recently an attorney with the Atlanta Legal Aid Society, will help the university recruit black students and will assist minority students in adjusting to college life.

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NEW YORK -- The Seabury Press, an official publishing house of the Episcopal Church, announces the May and June publication of three books which deal with some of the most controversial ecological issues facing the world today. Dale Aukerman's Darkening Valley: A Biblical Perspective on Nuclear War (\$8.95) refers to the Bible as a source of moral and spiritual insight which can be used to come to grips with the constant threat of nuclear confrontation. Let the Earth Bless the Lord: A Christian Perspective on Land Use (\$5.95), edited by Charles A. Cesaretti and Stephen Commins, is a discussion guide and resource book on the ethics of land use in a Christian context. A book by J. Christopher Grannis, Arthur J. Laffin, and Elin Schade -- The Risk of the Cross: Christian Discipleship in the Nuclear Age (\$5.95) -- takes the thematic content of the Gospel of St. Mark as a basis for an examination of the nuclear arms race.

ATLANTA -- Church leaders, researchers and consultants are invited to participate in a conference here on "Understanding the Local Church: The Values and Varieties of Congregational Analysis" next March 8-10. The first large meeting of its kind, the conference is supported by the Lilly Endowment and is designed to enable church leaders, social scientists, church consultants and theologians to assess "the state of the art" in congregational analysis and its implications for professional leadership. Sponsors are the Alban Institute, Auburn Theological Seminary, Candler School of Theology, Hartford Seminary and McCormick Theological Seminary. For further information, write Prof. James Hopewell, Rollins Center for Church Ministries, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322.

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NEW YORK -- The Episcopal Church's Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief has authorized an emergency grant of \$5,000 to Church World Service in response to severe flooding in north India in early August. More than 300 persons have died and as many as 3 million are homeless as a result of the continuing flooding in the area, the worst in 250 years. The World Service office is working with various agencies to provide blankets, immunization supplies, medical care, utensils, clothing and food. Church World Service has issued an appeal to member-churches of the National Council of Churches for \$100,000 to provide assistance to the victims of the flooding.

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EPISCOPALIAN KILLED IN EL SALVADOR

No. 81227

SAN SALVADOR -- Dr. Rosa Judith Cisneros, an attorney and Episcopalian active in social causes, was assassinated Aug. 18 by four unidentified gunmen outside her home here.

Cisneros, 45, was hit in the head and chest by several rounds when the attack occurred as she was leaving home for work early in the morning. None of the country's warring factions claimed credit for the murder, civil authorities told Church officials.

Long active in humanitarian causes, she had served four years as legal director of CREDHO, an Episcopal Church program designed to assist peasants in winning their legal rights. At the time of her death, she was director of the Demographic Institute, a private organization concerned with family planning. She had a special interest in the women of Latin America and wrote "The Juridical Condition of the Salvadorean Woman" to pursue that cause.

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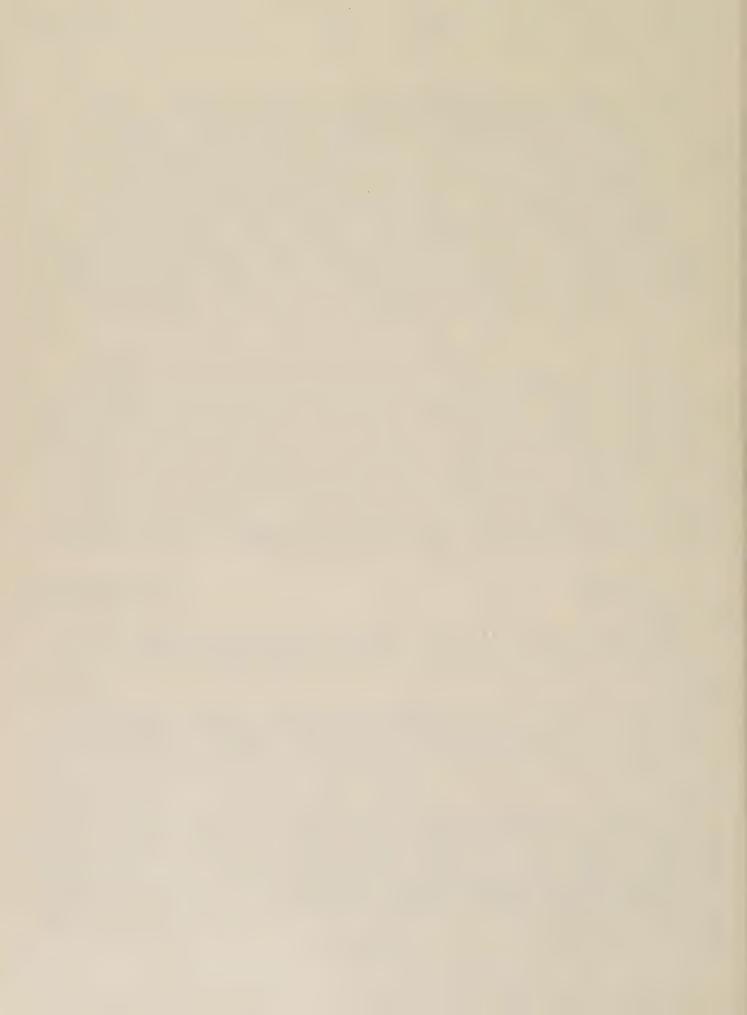
EPISCOPALIAN KILLED IN EL SALVADOR

No. 81227

SAN SALVADOR -- Dr. Rosa Judith Cisneros, an attorney and Episcopalian active in social causes, was assassinated Aug. 18 by four unidentified gunmen outside her home here.

Cisneros, 45, was hit in the head and chest by several rounds when the attack occurred as she was leaving home for work early in the morning. None of the country's warring factions claimed credit for the murder, civil authorities told Church officials.

Long active in humanitarian causes, she had served four years as legal director of CREDHO, an Episcopal Church program designed to assist peasants in winning their legal rights. At the time of her death, she was director of the Demographic Institute, a private organization concerned with family planning. She had a special interest in the women of Latin America and wrote "The Juridical Condition of the Salvadorean Woman" to pursue that cause.



Presiding Bishop John M. Allin, in Dresden for the meeting of the World Council of Churches central committee, issued a statement which noted that the assassination "robs that nation of a devoted and talented leader. Her senseless murder is a personal tragedy for the Episcopal Church in El Salvador.

"As a lawyer, author, and champion of the rights of women, and courageous humanitarian, Dr. Cisneros won the respect and trust of the public community. As a committed Christian, and through her work with CREDHO, Rosa won the hearts and admiration of all who labor as followers of the Prince of Peace.

"My first reaction to the news of her murder was: 'How senseless!' Indeed, how senseless it is that those who work to better and save lives, themselves pay the ultimate cost. Rosa knew, understood and accepted this human tragedy. She never counted the cost of discipleship and service. And now she joins the ranks of those martyrs who have willingly and fearlessly borne this burden. And, as we mourn our loss at her passing, we can but recall another martyr and servant, Stephen, who cried 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit,' and 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.'"

Bishop G. Edward Haynsworth, Episcopal Church Center partnership officer for Latin American and acting bishop of El Salvador, was here at the time of the assassination and spoke of the "deep personal affection in which we all held her. She's probably been a help to each one of us at some time."

He described her "as a very capable lawyer with a tremendous concern for the rights of people, especially the rights of women in Latin America. She was an extremely courageous person and her death is probably due to the fact that she never took seriously the idea that her life could be endangered."

Haynsworth was in the country to preside at the annual diocesan convention.

Cisneros is the second member of the Episcopal Church to be killed in the violence that is swamping this Central American country. Last year the South African ambassador, Archibald Dunn, was found dead after he was held hostage for several months.

On several occasions the Episcopal Church in El Salvador has pleaded for the cessation of violence and the establishment of peace. At its convention last year, the diocese spoke out against the violence that has taken more than 20,000 lives. The convention plea was "that our people be allowed to live in a true participatory democracy based on respect for life, integrity, dignity and liberty."

The plea won support from Allin, Archbishop Robert Runcie of Canterbury and the Episcopal Church Executive Council, which petitioned the Organization of American States and the U.S. government to act in the matter.

In mid-spring of this year, 77 Episcopal Church bishops pressed once more for the end of military support and loosening of restrictions on refugees from El Salvador.

A memorial service was held here Aug. 19.

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